



VANDEBURGH COUNTY CIVIL DEFENSE CORPS

DRESS MEMORIAL AIRPORT
HIGHWAY 41 NORTH

TELEPHONE 5-2605

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR
LT. COL. JOHN V. COLLINS, USMC

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA

A JOINT EDITORIAL TO ALL TRISTATE AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS

Evansville and the Tri-state are most fortunate in having a group of energetic and community minded radio amateurs who are willing to devote their time and equipment to aid others in time of emergencies or distaster. Many of these amateurs have joined A.R.E.C., some have enlisted as members of R.A.C.E.S. and some have remained unorgaized, each in his own manner seeking to perpetuate his hobby and aid his fellow citizen by furnishing his capabilities and facilities to either the civil or military as needed.

Several years ago, the Tristate Amateur Radio Society purchased a trailer and various types of communications gear soley in the interest of furthering the facilities available for emergency work. A truck was purchased to render the vehicle mobile and the complete unit was made available for use by the Amateur Radio Emergency Corps.

The Civil Defense authorities, realizing the value of communications in either natural or man made distasters, obtained a 22 ft bus and furnished funds which were used to purchase the latest in communications equipment.

In each case the same group of amateurs spent many hours converting the vehicles and installing the emergency communications equipment.

In addition to the above, twenty five 2 meter transmitter-receiver alerting systems are being purchased and converted for use by the hams. The Red Cross has furnished operating space for an emergency station and many of the commercial facilities have volunteered their equipment and operators for emergency purposes.

Many amateurs have purchased or built mobile equipment primarily for use in drills and actual distasters.



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Without furthering ones research it is evident that the Tristate is well fortified in-so-far as communication, operating personnel and willingness is concerned.

On Feb. 25, the undersignees, namely John Harkins, as Emergency Coordinator (W9WUH) and Albert W. Schoettlin (W9UMS) as Radio Officer for the Vanderburgh County Civil Defense, met with Lowell Goodson (W9RBV), president of the Tri-State Amateur Radio Society in the interest of surveying the potentialities available and to initiate action to better coordinate these facilities.

It was evident that with all the operators and equipment and the willingness exhibited, there were certain features lacking such as coordination, cooperation, liaison, training etc. between the operators and the organizations. As a result of the survey, several steps were taken in the interest of developing a unified and well trained organization.

Clifford McGuyer (W9DGA) was asked to handle the organization of this project and has accepted. Mac was chosen because of his understanding of the problem, his experience in communication and because he is well known and liked by all amateurs. He in turn has made several appointments, with the concurrence of the writers and will start the program immediately. (See organizational chart on separate page.)

With the cooperation of the many hams in the Tristate, applied in a well defined program of training and procedure, we can have an organization equipped to handle all emergencies and capable of handling the many requests for civic service being received.